

**ENTERED**

July 27, 2020

David J. Bradley, Clerk

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF	§	CIVIL ACTION NO.
AMERICA, <i>et al., ex rel.,</i>	§	4:18-cv-00123
HICHEM CHIH, I,	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
	§	
vs.	§	JUDGE CHARLES ESKRIDGE
	§	
	§	
CATHOLIC HEALTH	§	
INITIATIVES, <i>et al.,</i>	§	
Defendants.	§	


**ORDER**

Pursuant to 28 USC § 636(b)(1)(A) and (B) and the Cost and Delay Reduction Plan under the Civil Justice Reform Act, the Court REFERS this case to United States Magistrate Judge Sam Sheldon. This referral includes, but is not limited to, the proposed discovery plan at issue between the parties regarding assertions of privilege by the CHI Defendants. Dkt 275.

The Court ORDERS the parties to advise within twenty days of the entry of this order whether they will consent to the jurisdiction of the Magistrate Judge for all purposes in this case pursuant to 28 USC § 636(c).

For convenience, please find the form for *Consent to Proceed Before a Magistrate Judge* attached.

Signed on July 27, 2020 at Houston, Texas.

  
Hon. Charles Eskridge  
United States District Judge

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION**

_____, Plaintiff,	§ § § § § § § § § §	CIVIL ACTION NO. _____  JUDGE CHARLES ESKRIDGE
vs.		
_____, Defendant.		

**NOTICE OF THE RIGHT TO PROCEED  
IN A CIVIL CASE BEFORE A MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

With the consent of all parties, a United States Magistrate Judge may preside in a civil case, including a jury trial and entry of a final judgment.

The choice to proceed before a Magistrate Judge is entirely yours. Tell only the Clerk. Neither the District Judge nor the Magistrate Judge will be told unless and until all the parties agree.

The District Judge to whom your case is assigned must approve the referral to a Magistrate Judge.

You must use the consent form attached to these procedures. Complete the form but do not otherwise modify it. The form is also available from the Office of the Clerk of Court.

David Bradley, Clerk  
United States District Clerk  
Southern District of Texas

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
HOUSTON DIVISION**

_____, Plaintiff,	§ § § § § § § § § §	CIVIL ACTION NO. _____  JUDGE CHARLES ESKRIDGE
vs.		
_____, Defendant.		

**CONSENT TO PROCEED BEFORE A MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), all parties to this action waive their right to proceed before a District Judge of this Court and consent to have a United States Magistrate Judge conduct all further proceedings, including hearings and rulings on motions, pretrial conferences and trial, and entry of judgment.

Counsel for all parties execute this form as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ *for* \_\_\_\_\_  
  
\_\_\_\_\_ *for* \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDER TO REASSIGN**

It is ORDERED that the Clerk of Court shall reassign this action to United States Magistrate Judge Sam Sheldon to conduct all further proceedings, including hearings and rulings on motions, pretrial conferences and trial, and entry of judgment.

Signed on \_\_\_\_\_, at Houston, Texas.

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Hon. Charles Eskridge  
United States District Judge